

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

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UNCLAS KINGSTON 2198

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID, EMIN, ETRD, JM

SUBJECT: JAMAICA TO RECEIVE MORE AID FROM HUNGARY

REF: A. KINGSTON 0825, B. 77 KINGSTON 7449,

C. KINGSTON 7648

1. ASSISTANCE WITH THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE BASIC ENGINEERING DESIGN WORK FOR THE JAVEMEX ALUMINA PLANT AND AN OFFER OF A \$10 MILLION LINE OF CREDIT FOR THE PURCHASE OF MEDICAL EQUIPMENT HAVE BEEN EXTENDED TO JAMAICA BY THE HUNGARIAN GOVERNMENT. THIS WAS ANNOUNCED BY PRIME MINISTER MICHAEL MANLEY ON FEBRUARY 18 AT A PRESS CONFERENCE AT THE NORMAN MANLEY INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT ON HIS RETURN FROM THE TWELVE-DAY VISIT TO WEST GERMANY, BRITAIN AND HUNGARY.

2. MR. MANLEY SAID THAT THE BASIC ENGINEERING DESIGN WORK FOR JAVEMEX ALUMINA PLANT WOULD BEGIN ON APRIL 1. IT WOULD TAKE APPROXIMATELY EIGHT MONTHS AND WOULD BE UNCLASSIFIED

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CARRIED OUT BY THE HUNGARIANS. HUNGARY IS PROVIDING JAMAICA WITH EQUIPMENT FOR THE PROJECT, AND CONSTRUCTION IS EXPECTED TO BE COMPLETED BY 1981 TO MEET THE DEADLINE FOR THE COMMENCEMENT OF ALUMINA SHIPMENTS TO ALGERIA, WHICH ALONG WITH MEXICO WILL BE TAKING 75 PER CENT OF THE PLANT'S OUTPUT.

3. ACCORDING TO NEWSPAPER REPORTS OF THE PRESS CONFERENCE,

MR. MANLEY WITNESSED THE SIGNING OF THREE AGREEMENTS IN HUNGARY BETWEEN THAT COUNTRY AND JAMAICA COVERING TRADE AND ECONOMIC RELATIONS, CULTURAL EXCHANGE, AND SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION. FOREIGN MINISTER OF STATE DERRICK HEAVEN SIGNED ON JAMAICA'S BEHALF. MR. MANLEY SAID THE AGREEMENTS PROVIDED THE FRAMEWORK FOR FURTHER ECONOMIC COLLABORATION TO ENABLE JAMAICA TO BENEFIT FROM HUNGARIAN TECHNOLOGY IN SEVERAL FIELDS.

4. THE \$10 MILLION LINE OF CREDIT TO PURCHASE MEDICAL EQUIPMENT IS TO BE REPAID OVER EIGHT YEARS AT AN INTEREST RATE OF BETWEEN SEVEN AND EIGHT PER CENT. A HUNGARIAN TEAM IS ALSO TO VISIT JAMAICA IN MARCH TO EVALUATE MEDICAL EQUIPMENT NEEDS. A FURTHER AGREEMENT IS TO BE SIGNED BETWEEN HUNGARY AND JAMAICA THAT WILL INCLUDE ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE TRAINING IN HUNGARY OF THREE JAMAICANS IN MEDICAL EQUIPMENT TECHNOLOGY.

5. PRIME MINISTER MANLEY TOLD REPORTERS AT THE PRESS CONFERENCE THAT THE TWO PURPOSES OF HIS VISIT WERE (A) TO CONTINUE TO EXPAND JAMAICA'S ECONOMIC CONTACTS, PARTICULARLY WITH REGARD TO THE FIVE-YEAR PLAN AND (B) TO INCREASE THE PRESSURE FOR THE RESUMPTION OF MEANINGFUL NEGOTIATIONS ABOUT THE NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER (NIEO). MR. MANLEY SAID THAT THE DISCUSSIONS IN HUNGARY WITH RESPECT TO APPROACHES TO THE NIEO WAS ONE OF THE TWO CENTRAL ISSUES ON THE AGENDA - THE UNCLASSIFIED

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OTHER BEING DETENTE AND DISARMAMENT. HE SPOKE WITH MR. JANOS KADAR GVORGY LAZAR. MR. MANLEY SAID "WE REVIEWED THE NEGOTIATIONS THAT HAVE SO FAR TAKEN PLACE BETWEEN THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND THE WESTERN INDUSTRIALIZED NATIONS AT THE RECENT PARIS CONFERENCE AND ALSO WITHIN THE MORE TRADITIONAL UNITED NATIONA FRAMEWORK." HE SAID HE ALSO OUTLINED "THE POINT OF VIEW OF THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, BUT SUGGESTED THE ROLE THAT THE SOCIALIST COUNTRIES CAN PLAY IN HELPING TO SECURE A MORE JUST OUTCOME IN THE WORKINGS OF THE FREE MARKET SYSTEM IN INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITY."

6. ACCORDING TO THE PRIME MINISTER, THE VISIT TO HUNGARY ALSO PROVIDED AN OPPORTUNITY FOR THE CHAIRMAN AND THE MANAGING DIRECTOR OF THE JAMAICA STATE TRADING CORPORATION O.K. MELHADO AND DEXTER ROSE, TO DISCUSS FURTHER COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF PHARMACEUTICALS AND MEDICAL SUPPLIES. HUNGARY RECENTLY EXTENDED A LINE OF CREDIT TO JAMAICA TO FACILITATE THE PURCHASE OF DRUGS FROM THEM (SEE REF. C).

7. MR. MANLEY ALSO VISITED BRITAIN WHERE HE HELD TALKS WITH PRIME MINISTER JAMES CALLAGHAN, AND WEST GERMANY WHERE HE SPOKE WITH CHANCELLOR HELMUT SCHMIDT, NORWEIGIAN

PRIME MINISTER ODVAR NORDI AND SOCIALIST INTERNATIONAL
CHARIMAN WILLY BRANDT.
HAVERKAMP

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